MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) Assistant Excise Commissioner Mr. T. V. Ramakrishna Aiyar.

(*b*) and (*c*) No such report has been received by Government.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: With reference to the part (*b*), may I know whether the Government have received any communication at all, or not, from the Excise Commissioner?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: No communication has been received by the Government on the subject referred to in that part.

Sale of toddy in the Arukutty Circle.

187. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state the system now in force in the Arukutty Circle in regard to the sale of toddy?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: The taluk vend rent system prevails in the Arukutty Circle.

Contract for the sale of toddy in the Arukutty Circle.

188. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) who the contractor for the sale of toddy in the Arukutty Circle is and how long he has been the contractor there; and

(*b*) whether the contract was put to public auction biennially before it was given to that contractor, and, if not, why?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) Mr. V. Balaguruswami Nadar has been the contractor since February 1921 (Kumbham 1096).

(*b*) The contract was not put up to auction, but was settled by negotiation, as auction is unsuited to the system of farming the manufacture and vend of toddy over large areas.

Irregularities in the Arukutty Circle.

189. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received any report from the late Excise Commissioner Mr. N. Raman Pillai, stating that the Excise Officers in the Arukutty Circle were receiving a monthly subscription of Re. 1—as. 8 from every tapper in the circle in return for a free license to sell toddy and make toddy arrack in his house, that, to avoid the independent jaggery arrack shop-keepers' complaints, they were forcing every tapper to buy a bottle of arrack from the arrack shop-keepers and that this system of issuing a bottle of arrack to a tapper was something like issuing free licenses to conduct malpractices?

(*b*) Who were the officers thus reported against?

(*c*) Have Government censured them for their malpractices?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Mr. T. V. Ramakrishna Aiyar and some of the Inspectors working under him.

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